

To the Members of the California State Senate:

While I agree with the author, that improved coordination of research and data collection can help California better protect public health, I am returning Senate Bill 849 without my signature as this bill duplicates efforts underway.

California has taken great strides to better protect public health and improve environmental health by creating a new Department of Public Health and establishing the first comprehensive, statewide effort to measure and catalogue human exposure to chemicals. California's Biomonitoring Program, established by SB 1379 (Perata) which I recently signed into law, will help us better understand how chemicals in our environment may be building up and affecting our bodies, our environment, and our public health. The Biomonitoring program will build on existing efforts to increase data sharing and strengthen research efforts through an environmental health tracking program.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger